

****SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 26th, 2010 5:30 p.m. EST****

****Please submit all requests electronically directly to HillAppropsRequest@mail.house.gov****

January 29th, 2010

Dear Community Leader,

Thank you again for your continued work in our community. I know that, together, we will be able to endure and solve the current economic recession while putting the needs of our constituents first. As you know, President Obama recently submitted his proposed budget to Congress, and the House of Representatives is now beginning the annual process of determining funding for federal programs and agencies.

While more competitive and stringent than ever, the Appropriations process is being conducted very differently than it has been in the past. In that vein, the 111th Congress has furthered its effort to provide transparency in the Appropriations process. Again this year, each Member of Congress is required to post their requests to the Appropriations Committee on their website. **This means that all of your requests have the possibility of becoming public.** In approaching my decisions on which requests to move forward, I am considering the following basic guidelines:

- **Fiscal conservatism:** as a member of the Congressional Blue Dog Coalition, I firmly believe we must reign in our budget deficit, while at the same time ensuring the progress for our district that I was elected to provide.
- **Project viability and scope:** the Ninth District is a big place, and federal funding is tighter this year than it has been in recent memory. My staff and I will be placing priority on projects that have a broad scope and benefit for the Ninth District, or that serve emergent needs in communities across Southern Indiana.
- **Long-term benefit:** projects that have long-term benefits for the district, or those which have yet to be completed or maintained for lengthy periods of time will also have priority. I believe strongly that the best use of your tax dollars is to ensure projects are done efficiently, done well, and are made to last.

Due to the large reductions in the total amount of appropriations funding, I am also limiting the number of projects that I request of the Committee in the following ways:

- **Four requests for public higher education institutions in the district.**
- **Four requests for military and Army Corps of Engineer projects in the district.**
- **One request per County that falls into the guidelines outlined above.**

Please take time to review the attached information carefully to decide if your community or organization has a project for which you wish to submit an Appropriations request. I wish to impress upon those applying the importance of the **February 26th, 2010 deadline**, as well as the importance of fully completing the attached questionnaire. The volume of requests and approaching deadline means that technical assistance with the questionnaires may not be readily available from our Congressional offices. While this timeline is not ideal, it is the only one with which we are able to work, and we appreciate your cooperation.

Thank you for all that you do for the communities of the Ninth District. Should you have questions, please contact my Legislative Director, David Bond, at (202) 225-5315, or my district offices toll free at (866) 440-1321.

Sincerely,

Baron P. Hill
Member of Congress

CONGRESSMAN BARON HILL
FY 2011 APPROPRIATIONS PROJECT REQUEST

-Please return by COB February 26th, 2010.

The Process

Obtaining priority federal funding for specific projects through annual Congressional Appropriations bills is the result of a very competitive process. Congressman Hill must first present the merits of projects to the House Appropriations Committee, which will then decide whether or not to include that project in the proper Appropriations bill. Successful projects are then funded at an amount determined by the Appropriations Committee for that fiscal year. Generally, priority project funds are appropriated through existing federal programs or other authorized accounts used for a specific purpose, so project requests must match the eligibility requirements and intent of the federal funding source through which applicants are seeking funds.

Questionnaire and Deadline

All projects are different, and the various Appropriations Subcommittees require different information for projects submitted for their consideration. As such, this document is not meant to be exhaustive or all encompassing; and applicants may be contacted by Congressman Hill's office and asked to provide additional information or complete other materials regarding their project requests.

Applicants must provide, to the best of their ability, accurate answers to this questionnaire for each project they wish to submit for consideration by Congressman Hill. **All answers should be provided on no more than two pages, attached to this form, and submitted electronically directly to HillAppropsRequest@mail.house.gov by Close of Business February 26th, 2010.** Also, any letters of support (from a mayor, state agency, organization, etc.) may be scanned and attached to the completed questionnaire. It is your responsibility to call the office to confirm that your completed questionnaire and any supporting documents have been received.

Factors Considered by the Committees

While there are no guarantees or easy predictions on which projects will receive priority funding by the House Subcommittees, the merits of a project request and availability of federal funds are the determining factors used by the Committee. Among other factors, strong candidates will present a clear necessity for federal funding; demonstrate a high level of importance and benefit to the local community or economy; accurately estimate a specific number of new jobs created, students educated, patients provided care, etc.; present a clear explanation of how funds are to be used; and identify the specific program source or federal account from which funds are being sought.

Remember

Please note that submission of a completed questionnaire does not guarantee that a project will be submitted for Committee consideration. Congressman Hill will decide which projects he submits for consideration based on their merits and if the application was submitted by the deadline – **COB February 26th, 2010** – to HillAppropsRequest@mail.house.gov. Further, submission of a project for Committee consideration does not guarantee a project's successful award of funds. The Appropriations Committee has committed to cutting its spending amounts. Therefore, there will not be as much money available to spend on these projects as there has been in previous years.

Congressman Hill will also limiting the number of projects that are requested in the following ways:

- **Four requests for public higher education institutions in the district.**
- **Four requests for military and Army Corps of Engineer projects in the district.**
- **One request per County that falls into the guidelines outlined above.**

In order for a project included in a House Appropriations Committee to receive actual funds through this process, the project must be included in a Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations bill that is subsequently passed by Congress and signed into law by the President. Finally, funding amounts may be equal to or less than the requested amount, as determined by the Committee.

Feel free to direct any questions about the Appropriations process or the questionnaire to David Bond, Congressman Hill's Legislative Director, at (202) 225-5315.

**CONGRESSMAN BARON HILL
FY 2010 PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE**

-Please limit total response to no more than two pages and return by COB February 26th, 2010-

NAME OF PROJECT:

1. Provide the exact name and location of the potential funding recipient, along with the name, title, and address, as well as the phone number of a contact for the applicant or organization. If the potential recipient is a school, please provide the exact name and location of the school and the district in which the school is located.
2. Describe the organization's main activities, and whether it is a public, private or non-profit entity.
3. Is the potential recipient, and/or the community in which it is located, within Indiana's Ninth Congressional District?
4. Provide a brief, detailed description of the activity or project for which funding is requested. If the request is for health-related construction, please identify the programmatic activity that will be carried out in the facility.
5. What is the national significance of the project, and what specific federal responsibility does the funding of this project or activity further? (For example, what measurable improvements in community health, educational achievement, economic and job growth, or similar outcomes will result from this project?)
6. Identify the federal program (and/or the account number if applicable) from which funds are being sought.
7.
 - a. What is the total project cost?
 - b. What is the amount you are requesting for FY 2011? If your request involves more than one year, please indicate the one-year amount.
 - c. Has this project received priority funding through previous federal appropriations bills? If so, please list the years, under which Appropriations bill, the program/account through which the funding was awarded, and the amount previously awarded.
 - d. Was funding for this project included in a House-passed Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations bill? If so, which appropriations bill and at what amount?
 - e. Include a break down of how the requested funding will be used. (For example, salary \$40,000; personal computers \$3,000, etc.)
8.
 - a. Are other funding sources contributing to this project or activity? Is there a non-federal match? Is there currently a request for funding for this project to any state or federal agencies that are not listed above?
 - b. If so, what amount will each of these funding sources contribute?
9. Is the entity currently receiving funding for this activity from any other Federal agencies, or is the entity currently applying for funds through other Federal sources? If yes, include information on the amount of funds received/requested, the years received/requested, and the name of the Federal agency and program providing the funding.